

Application No. 10/653,601  
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2006

Docket No.: 00-VE20.59DIV

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims supersedes all prior listings, and versions, of claims in this application.

1 - 27 (cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) An automated telephone test apparatus, comprising;  
test circuit means for applying test signals to a telephone line to be tested, said test circuit means including a means for applying dialing signals to said telephone line;  
a memory; and  
programmable means connected to said test circuit means and said memory for controlling the apparatus;  
said apparatus being programmed to firstly:  
store in said memory assignment data indicative of a telephone number corresponding to the telephone line to be tested;  
said apparatus being programmed to secondly:  
apply dialing signals to said telephone line to actuate a line identification facility at a central office;  
receive DTMF signals indicative of a telephone number corresponding to said telephone line from said line identification facility at said central office to which said dialing signals were applied;  
decode said received DTMF signals;  
retrieve said stored assignment data from said memory;  
compare said telephone number indicated by said retrieved assignment data with said telephone number indicated by said received and decoded DTMF signal; and  
indicate whether said telephone line tested was the intended subject of the test assignment.

29. (Canceled)

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30. (Previously Presented) A method of verifying a telephone line test assignment, comprising the steps of:

storing in a memory assignment data indicative of a telephone number corresponding to a telephone line to be tested;

after storing assignment data in said memory, applying dialing signals to said telephone line to actuate a line identification facility at a central office;

receiving DTMF signals indicative of a telephone number corresponding to said telephone line from said line identification facility at said central office to which said dialing signals were applied;

decoding said received DTMF signals;

retrieving said stored assignment data from said memory;

comparing said telephone number indicated by said retrieved assignment data with said telephone number indicated by said received and decoded DTMF signals; and

indicating whether said telephone line tested was the intended subject of the test assignment.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the apparatus is further programmed to store in said memory data confirming that said telephone line tested was the intended subject of the test assignment.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30, further comprising the step of storing in said memory data confirming that said telephone line tested was the intended subject of the test assignment.